



TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Tuesday, 9 July 2024

Trafford Town Hall
Talbot Road
Stretford
M32 0TH

Dear Councillor,

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Trafford on **WEDNESDAY, 17 JULY 2024, at 7.00 P.M.** in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, TRAFFORD TOWN HALL, TALBOT ROAD, STRETFORD**, for the transaction of the business set out below:

- | | Pages |
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| 1. Minutes | |
| To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 22 May 2024, for signature by the Mayor as Chair of the Council. | 1 - 14 |
| 2. Announcements | |
| To receive any announcements from the Mayor, Leader of the Council, Members of the Executive, Chairs of Scrutiny Committees and the Head of Paid Service. | |
| 3. Questions By Members | |
| This is an opportunity for Members of Council to ask the Mayor, Members of the Executive or the Chairs of any Committee or Sub-Committee a question on notice under Procedure Rule 10.2. | |
| 4. Corporate Plan 2024-27 | |
| To consider a joint report of the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive. | 15 - 46 |
| 5. Report of the Constitutional Working Group | |
| To consider recommendations from the Constitutional Working Group in respect of arrangements for Council meetings at Trafford Council. | To Follow |

6. Accounts and Audit Committee Annual Report to Council 2023/24

To note a report of the 2023/24 Chair and Vice-Chair of the Accounts and Audit Committee which was referred from the Accounts and Audit Committee meeting held on 26 June 2024.

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7. Motions

To consider the following motions submitted in accordance with Procedure Rule 11:

(a) Motion Submitted by the Liberal Democrats Group - Upgrading Trafford's Belisha Beacons

July 2024 marks exactly 90 years since Liberal MP and Minister for Transport, Leslie Hore Belisha, passed the Road Safety Act of 1934. One of the measures in this Act, to cut the huge number of fatalities on British roads, was the introduction of the now-familiar yellow beacons either side of zebra crossings.

In 2024, newer technology is available to make Belisha Beacons more effective on our busy streets.

This Council notes:

- Road safety continues to be a significant concern for our residents – especially for children making their way to the schools in our Borough each day.
- Belisha Beacons clearly mark the crossing points when it is dark, but when the sun is strong in the summer, or at a low angle mid-afternoon in the spring or autumn, the effect of the Beacons flashing virtually disappears in strong light.
- Therefore, at precisely the time children are using the crossing – the Beacons become very ineffective at alerting drivers to the fact they are approaching a zebra crossing at certain times of year.
- This issue is particularly pertinent on streets with an East-West orientation that catch direct sunlight at a low-angle.

This Council believes:

- The solution to the problem of Belisha Beacons disappearing in bright sunlight are the new-style Belisha Beacons with an 'LED halo'.
- The 'LED halo' Beacons provide a semi-circular ring of bright yellow LED lights that are still visible in strong daylight, alerting drivers they are approaching a zebra crossing.

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- Many new-style Beacons can be seen in supermarket car-parks already, where they are clearly more effective than the old-style Beacons. However, Trafford Council has not adopted this design for the Borough's roads.

This Council further notes:

- Following initial conversations in Autumn 2023 between Timperley Councillors and Trafford Highways, there is a successful trial of the new-style Belisha Beacons in Timperley for the zebra crossing outside St Hugh's School.
- More recently, Trafford Highways have told Councillors that the particular product being trialled in Timperley North is:

"very simple to install as there is no requirement to dig down into the ground".

This Council further believes:

- School children in all parts of Trafford should benefit from the added safety of Belisha Beacons that are more visible to drivers.
- Cost, as ever, remains a difficulty, so a phased approach to replacement will be necessary; ensuring when old-style Beacons fail or are damaged, they are replaced with new-style Beacons.

This Council resolves to:

- Phase out the old-style Belisha Beacons when they fail and upgrade them to the new-style 'LED halo' Belisha Beacons.
- Prioritize the upgrade of Beacons at pedestrian crossings where the road layout makes the flashing effect of the Beacons particularly prone to disappearing in strong sunlight.
- Prioritize the upgrade of Beacons at pedestrian crossings close to schools.

**(b) Motion Submitted by the Green Party Group - Cost of Living:
Reduce Bills and Tackle Poverty**

This Council notes that the Cost-of-Living crisis is not over.

Between April 2022 and April 2024 the cost of a basic weekly food basket has increased by 25%.

Whilst energy bills were set to fall by 7% from July the Ofgem price cap is expected to rise again by around 10% in October, meaning bills stay 50-60% above pre-crisis levels.

We further note that bills could have already been lowered through an adequate programme of home insulation in line with net zero commitments.

Rents in the private housing sector, where many of the most vulnerable households live, have continued to increase at a rate above headline inflation.

This Council calls on the new Government to:

- Abolish the two-child benefit cap immediately.
- Further extend and increase the Household Support Fund as an interim measure, enabling councils to help those in the most need throughout this coming winter.
- Rapidly end no fault evictions and give the power to local authorities to control rents if the local rental market is overheated as is currently the case in Scotland.
- Rapidly end competitive bidding for the social housing decarbonisation fund and expand available funding so all local authorities and social housing providers can maximise their work to shift to cleaner and cheaper energy in homes.
- Bring forward mechanisms for homeowners to more easily access property-linked finance to decarbonise heating and reduce energy costs; and for private tenants to insist that their landlords access property-linked finance on their behalf.

Yours sincerely,



SARA TODD
Chief Executive

Council - Wednesday, 17 July 2024

Membership of the Council

Councillors A.M. Whyte (Mayor), J. Brophy (Deputy Mayor), D. Acton, S. Adshead, J.M. Axford, Babar, O.J. Baskerville, J. Bennett, B. Brotherton, D. Butt, G. Carter, K.G. Carter, G. Coggins, M. Cordingley, F. Cosby, Z.C. Deakin, G. Devlin, R. Duncan, P. Eckersley, S. G. Ennis, N. Evans, W. Frass, S.J. Gilbert, K Glenton, L. Hancock, J. Harding, B. Hartley, W. Hassan, S. J. Haughey, E.L. Hirst, J. Holden, F. Hornby, C. Hynes, D. Jarman, D. Jerrome, W. Jones, J. Leicester, S.E. Lepori, J. Lloyd, S. Maitland, M. Minnis, J.D. Newgrosh, T. O'Brien, D.C. O'Sullivan, E.R. Parker, E. Patel, K. Procter, S. Procter, T. Ross, U. Savary, J. Slater, H. K. Spencer, O. Sutton, M.J. Taylor, S. Taylor, S. Thomas, R. Thompson, M.J. Welton, D. Western, A.J. Williams, B.G. Winstanley, J.A. Wright and S. Zhi.

Further Information

For help, advice and information about this meeting please contact:

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This Summons was issued on **Tuesday, 9 July 2024** by the Governance Services Section, Trafford Council, Trafford Town Hall, Talbot Road, Stretford M32 0TH.